

First United Methodist Church Goliad, Texas

September, 2020

Process for Re-opening

Target Date: Sunday, 6 September 2020

9:15 AM – Sunday School, Family Life Center and Zoom link

10:30 AM – Worship Services, Sanctuary and Live-Stream/
(Recorded) Zoom link



Dear All,

The Re-opening Task Force of the Church Council made up of the following members: Elizabeth Wilson, Matt Bochat, Erika Bochat, Hal Davis, Mark Hancock, and Pastor Missy Jenson. We met to update and review the directional guidelines as provided by the Office of the Governor, City of Goliad Office of Emergency Management, and Recommendations for a Safe Return to Worship by Church Mutual Insurance for Gatherings/Congregational meetings.

We are excited about the plan that will allow us to be together and to return for **in-person Sunday School AND Worship Services** on Sunday, September 6, 2020, at 9:15 AM and 10:30 AM, respectively, with all necessary preparation and procedures to provide a safe environment in place:

Sunday School will be in-person in the Family Life Center (FLC) for adults and in the nursery room for children; meeting time on Sunday morning at 9:15 AM. Please enter the FLC on the classroom side of the building. Adults who would like to join the class virtually can do so through the emailed Zoom link.

Worship Services will be in-person in the Sanctuary; meeting time on Sunday morning at 10:30 AM. Please enter the Sanctuary on the street side of the building. If you are coming from Sunday School in the FLC, we ask that you exit the FLC on the classroom side of the building and make your way to enter the Sanctuary on the street side of the building. We will live-stream the service through Zoom for those who would like to worship with us corporately yet virtually. We will also post the recording of the service on YouTube on Mondays for those who cannot “tune in live.”

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Join us Online

We continue to worship online during this season of COVID.

Find our services on our

[Facebook page](#), [YouTube Channel](#)

or our [Website](#).

August Attendance

	YouTube	Zoom SS
8/2	44	12
8/9	38	15
8/16	52	8
8/23	46	15
8/30	34	17

September Rail Offering

Communion Sunday is September 6th. Our rail offering will go to support the Goliad Ministerial Alliance, which is funded by churches across our county to assist our community members when they need help with paying bills, buying groceries or gas, or are in need other assistance.

Ways to Give to First UMC Goliad

Mail: POB 1223, Goliad, TX 77963

Paypal: www.fumcgoliad.org

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Please be prepared for the following as you come to Sunday School/worship:

Check-In Station: Find the pop-up tent upon your arrival to check-in. Be prepared to answer questions related to recent exposure/risk of illness and verify your contact information.

Please wear your face masks (for all ages 10 and over). We will have disposable ones for anyone needing one to wear.

Enter/Exit FLC through doors on classroom side; enter/exit Church through doors on street side; dismissal will be directed by ushers/greeters and will take place out of both doors to minimize traffic

Offering plates will be located at the back of the sanctuary for you to place your gifts before/after worship.

Please sit in family groups and keep your school-aged children with you during the service. We will have nursery care for infants, toddlers and pre-school!

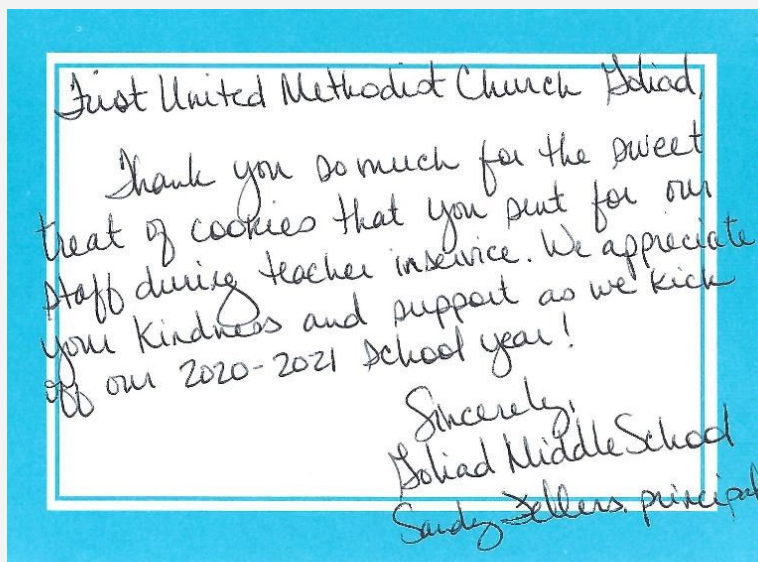
Visit with your friends outside in the open air. Remember to wave instead of offering handshakes or hugs - no matter how tempting!

If you are a part of the vulnerable population OR you simply are not comfortable with being around crowds, it is still a faithful response to worship from home.

Please feel free to reach out to any one of us with questions or for more information. We love you and can't wait to see you.

With great love and anticipation,
Erika

A Note of Thanks



Website Updates

Our website is being updated, so check it out!
Visit www.fumcgoliad.org.

- * Earlier this year, we added a PayPal link so you can make online donations.
- * Our weekly virtual worship services are now linked on the homepage.
- * We have an online calendar.
- * Also, we are moving to an online reservation system so if you are needing hold a small group meeting on campus or rent our space for other purposes, you will now need to make that request online. (And you can check the calendar to see if the space is available!)



Pray-for-a-Teacher:

We want to cover our teachers in prayer for this school year! If you're willing to take a name or several, let Pastor Missy know. GISD has 235 employees, and so far 38 have been "adopted" for prayer.

In addition to praying for them daily, we'll send them notes of encouragement every 6-weeks grading period. You can either drop these off or mail them to the employee's specific campus. If mailing, address the envelope to the Staff Member (first and last name) and then c/o [Campus Name].

Goliad ISD Office
161 N. Welch St.
Goliad, TX 77963

Goliad Elementary School
142 W. High St.
Goliad, TX 77963

Goliad Middle School
659 Tiger Dr.
Goliad, TX 77963

Goliad High School
746 N. Tiger Dr.
Goliad, TX 77963

A Call To Prayer,
a gathering of Goliad's Christian community united in prayer for God's mercy, guidance and restoration.



Goliad County Rodeo Arena September 11, 2020 at 7PM

This event is being put on by the Goliad Ministerial Alliance to encourage our local Christian community to be in prayer with and for one another.

Jason Howard from First Baptist is organizing music for the event and welcomes your participation. If you're interested, please call him at 325-205-0183.

Office Volunteers Needed

FUMC is blessed to now have a virtual secretary so we are looking for volunteers to sit in the office to answer phones and greet people. Ideally, we'd like to have someone present 10am -12pm during the week (Mondays thru Thursdays). If you are willing to take a certain day of the week, or sign up for a "shift," please let Pastor Missy know.

GriefShare

This past Spring, our church's GriefShare group was interrupted by the pandemic and we had to stop meeting. Pastor Missy would like to try to offer this again this fall, but is looking to see if there is interest. Please let her know if you would like to participate in this grief support group and whether you prefer to meet in-person or over Zoom.

GREETINGS FROM YOUR WESLEY NURSE!

As you are aware all Wesley Nurse's were instructed to work from home beginning 3/24/20. We have been doing all our work telephonically with very little person to person contact. I continue to distribute diabetic testing supplies, assist with paying for medications and physician co-pays, and with the cost of fuel or transportation. I am just a phone call away. At this time all group education classes and the free clinic are still canceled until further notice. MHM corporate will return to the office, scheduled for September 21 and the phasing back in of Wesley's Nurses began last week. I should be in the second tier and hope to be back in the office October 1st.

With school resuming and a continued decrease in positive cases, I am excited and ready to be back. Please remember these things if you are still looking for ways to help. We still have many people due to compromised immune systems that may require help:

- Who do you know that might need a touch? Someone who is normally socially active but now restricted to home? Our elderly? Someone under the weather? Could you reach out with a text or email? Maybe an old-fashioned phone call or letter? How about someone you don't know too well but wanted to get to know better when you "had the time"? I will tell you that it is a lonely time for many and the social isolation already seems like an eternity.
- Is there someone you could take a meal to? Go get groceries or medicine for?
- Got some extra food? Donations are always in need in Berclair. Be sure to disinfect the handles on the door before you open it!
- Is someone you know feeling particularly anxious? Offer to listen and express words of comfort. The uncertainty of what we face is real and harder for some than others. If someone needs professional help, they can connect with a trained crisis counselor:

- * Call 800-985-5990, for Spanish press option #2
- * Text Talk to 66746
- * TTY, call 800-846-8517

- Like to sew? You can look on YouTube for directions on making cotton masks for healthcare workers.
- Have you spent time in prayer? Quieting our minds, giving our concerns to God, and lifting up others is a great way to reduce our stress and take comforting action.
- This is a great time to catch up on reading and any other hobby you have been putting off. Family game night will be a break from all the screen time. Puzzles are another way to be engaged. When you are done with your books and puzzles, pass them on!
- Don't forget this is a great time to get outdoors in your yard or neighborhood. Being outdoors is proven to help elevate the mood. Sunshine in the morning has been shown to increase sleep time at night. Please drink plenty of water and limit time to early morning or later in the evening.
- Be sure and get plenty of exercise and eat healthy during this time of anxiety. Both are immune boosters to help you resist illness.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18: Be joyful always; pray continually, Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Need to talk? Give me a call! Phone: 972-768-5138

Don't forget to fill out your 2020 Census. It takes less than 5 minutes. If you need help give me a call. The census workers have begun to go door to door for those that have not yet filled out their census.

Grace and peace!

Elizabeth, Wesley Nurse